

## Huntington Beach Human Relations Task Force

January 5, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

### I. Roll Call

Present: Garrick, Tyler, Dahman, Malik, Lee-Goodman, Lowell-Monfort, McKinnon

Absent: MacDonell

Staff Liaison: Kuhnke

Police Liaison: Sgt. Garrido

### II. Welcoming Remarks/Announcements by Linda MacDonell, Chair

Due to absence of Chair MacDonell, Vice Chair Dahman announced she would be chairing the meeting and welcomed all present.

### III. Public Comments:

Melissa Lyon, Director of International and Intercultural Programs at Golden West College, announced an upcoming event at the college. Challenging Islamophobia will be held at Golden West College at 6:00 pm on January 25<sup>th</sup>. A panel of experts will discuss some of the issues surrounding Muslims in the USA in hopes of raising awareness of the issue.

### IV. Special Reports/Presentations:

Stephanie Taylor from the Orange County Salvation Army made a presentation regarding their Anti-Trafficking Program. They currently serve foreign-born victims of human trafficking and their families. Since 2009, they have served 110 victims-survivors, plus their families. Thirty-two (32) of these were victims of sex trafficking and 78 were victims of labor-trafficking. This program views their clients as victims rather than criminals and attempts to assist them from crisis to self-sufficiency to thriving. Some of their services include: emergency assistance and referrals for food, shelter, clothing, transportation, and medical/mental health services. They also have a Guest House that provided a safe house for 14 survivors and their children in 2014.

### V. Approve Minutes: *Motion to approve November 3, 2015 minutes as presented. Moved: Garrick; Seconded: Lowell-Monfort. Yes: (7) No: (0); Absent: 1 (MacDonell). Motion passed.*

### VI. Status/Informational Reports:

#### 1. Hate Crimes/Incidents:

Sgt. Garrido gave an update of the hate crime from October regarding the incident between a transgender who was riding on the bike path and a transient. Two suspects were arrested; one was charged with a felony, but no charges were made on 2<sup>nd</sup> suspect. Case is in the courts now. The victim received services. There were no hate crimes in November. One incident was reported in December when the male suspect approached a group of Jewish young men in Bella Terra, ranting and raving at them. After being removed from Bella Terra, he felt his civil rights had been violated and posted hateful threats on face book. A restraining order was issued; the suspect was arrested and charged with terrorist threats and hate crimes, both felony filings.

#### 2. Coordinating Council (CC) News/Activities:

Garrick reported that there were presentations from people providing services to the homeless in Huntington Beach.

#### 3 OC Human Relations News/ Activities

Malik reported that the OC Human Relations Walk in My Shoes event on November 13, 2015 was very successful again this year. A total of 500 students and educators from 21 orange County high schools attended the event. Copies of the 2015 OC Human Relations Walk in My shoes event and Annual report were distributed. Malik also mentioned that a new homeless shelter has been approved in Anaheim. This will be a county wide shelter having 200 beds with a maximum stay of 6 months.

#### 4. HRTF Donation Account Balance:

Kuhnke reported the balance at \$1,814.12.

**VII. Updates, Planning, and Possible Motions pertaining to the following events/programs:**

1. HRTF Student Representative Programs

Dahman reported that letters were sent by Kuhnke to all the high schools in HB and received a great response from the schools. It was decided at the Student Representative meeting that there would be events at all of the schools, including at lunch time. Since the assemblies are already established at the schools for the current year, they will attempt to set them on next year's calendars. Debra Reisdorf's group, Bullying Awareness Resistance Education, will be assisting in looking for sponsors for the various activities.

**VIII. New Business and Possible motions pertaining to:**

The continuation of the round table visioning exercise to develop and discuss goals, objectives and plans for the upcoming year will be continued until next month's meeting due to the absence of Chair MacDonell.

**IX. Task Force Member Comments:**

Lee-Goodman stated that she would like to schedule a speaker from the Los Angeles Superior Court to present information on their SHADES (Stopping Hate and Delinquency by Empowering Students) program which trains students as prospective jurors. Malik indicated that OC Human Relations also offers a similar program.

Garrick asked for suggestions for volunteer opportunities.

**Adjournment at 8:00 pm to: February 1, 2016 , *Huntington Central Library, B Room at 6:45 p.***